

General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement

*Summer
1998*

Set the Stage for Planning

The first phase of the process lays the foundation for what is done in the plan and, ultimately, in the park. The park's mission, purposes, and significance statements are developed to ensure that everything we do protects park resources and values and is consistent with the reasons Voyageurs National Park was established. During this phase, issues and concerns that need to be addressed in the plan are also identified. This helps to focus our work and determines the scope of the planning efforts.

Planning Activities:

- reaffirm park mission, purposes, and significance
- identify issues and concerns

Opportunities for Public Input:

- participate in August public scoping meetings
- mail in issues, concerns and visions for the park's future

Fall 1998 — Spring 1999

Develop Preliminary Management Alternatives

The planning team will be learning more about issues and problems, identifying opportunities for resolving problems, and developing ideas for future management of the park. Concepts for alternative approaches to managing Voyageurs will be generated. These will be broad descriptions of different resource conditions and visitor experiences that would achieve the park's purposes and maintain its significance.

Planning Activities:

- compile and analyze public comments, issues and visions for the park's future
- identify alternative approaches for managing the park
- compile and analyze public comments on the initial management alternatives

Opportunities for Public Input:

- participate in public meetings
- provide comments on the initial management alternatives

Spring 1999 — Spring 2000

Publish *Draft* GMP/EIS

General management strategies for achieving alternative desired conditions will be developed, and the potential environmental consequences of each alternative will be evaluated. We expect to publish the draft general management plan/environmental impact statement late in 1999. The draft will be placed on public review, during which time written comments on the draft will be accepted.

Planning Activities:

- evaluate the environmental impacts of the alternative approaches to managing the park
- identify a preferred alternative
- prepare and publish the draft GMP/EIS

Opportunities for Public Input:

- provide comments on the draft GMP/EIS at public meetings
- provide written comments on the draft GMP/EIS



Spring 2000 — Fall 2000	Fall 2000 & Beyond →
<p>Revise & Publish <i>Final</i> GMP/EIS</p> <p>Based on public comments, appropriate revisions to the draft will be made and a final GMP/EIS developed. We anticipate that the final plan will be available in the fall of 2000.</p> <hr/> <p>Planning Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compile and analyze public comments on the draft document • make revisions, prepare, and distribute the final GMP/EIS 	<p>Implement Plan</p> <p>A record of decision documenting the NPS' final decisions in the GMP will be issued after the final plan is published.</p> <hr/> <p>Planning Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepare and issue a record of decision

Public Scoping Meetings

Four meetings will be held this month to provide interested citizens with an opportunity to talk with members of the planning team about the GMP and the future of the park:

August 24 Twin Cities:	Sheraton Midway 400 North Hamline Avenue
August 25 Duluth:	Radisson Hotel-Harborview 505 West Superior Street
August 26 Orr:	Orr Community School
August 27 International Falls:	Holiday Inn 1500 Highway 71

All meetings will be conducted as follows:

5:00pm-6:00pm Open house

6:00pm-6:30pm Introductory presentation

6:30pm-8:00pm Small group, facilitator-led discussions

8:00pm-8:30pm Wrap-up

Questions? Call Kathleen Przybylski at (218)283-9821

